

# Bremerton ❖ Kitsap County Health District

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*Scott W. Lindquist, MD, MPH, Director*  
109 Austin Drive  
Bremerton, WA 98312

January 11, 2002

Janet Lunceford  
City of Bremerton Fire Department  
817 Pacific Avenue  
Bremerton, WA 98337

RE: COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION AT SESKO PROPERTY

Dear Ms. Lunceford:

The Bremerton-Kitsap County Health District (Health District) is writing to provide you with a summary of the complaint investigation that occurred on January 9, 2002 at 3536 Arsenal Way in Bremerton.

On January 9, 2002 at around 11:00 am I received a phone call while I was in the field from a co-worker (John Kiess). John called to tell me that he had received a complaint, forwarded to him by the Washington State Department of Ecology, that there were cars being crushed at the above referenced property, and that fluids from these cars were pouring out onto the ground as a result.

I arrived on the property shortly thereafter and immediately contacted employees of Buckley Recycling who were doing the cleanup of the site. I asked them if they were draining the fluids from the cars before they were being crushed and they told me that they were. They pointed me to a fenced area where I found three or four 55 gallon drums labeled "Oil", "Antifreeze" and "Mixed Fuel". The barrels had secondary containment. I then observed the Buckley employees as they "crushed" the vehicles. In actuality they weren't crushing the cars on-site. What they were doing was smashing the roofs of the vehicles down to a point where they became even with the hood or trunk. Then the vehicles were stacked to be loaded on a flat bed truck and taken off site. I saw no fluids leaking from any of the 12-15 vehicles I saw stacked next to the equipment that was smashing the roofs. I then inspected the ground around this area and saw only a few small spots that exhibited the typical hydrocarbon "sheen".

I then contacted Natasha Sesko who led me to several areas of the site that she seemed to be concerned about. The only thing I saw that could I would call a spill was a large engine block that had been punctured and the oil had drained out as a result. Several absorbent pads were already placed around the engine block so I was satisfied with that.

I then informed Mrs. Sesko that I saw no cause for concern and told her I would not be pursuing the matter any further. I did tell her I would contact you (which I did later that same day via phone) and inform you of the nature of my visit to the site.

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**POULSBO ANNEX**  
**Environmental Health Division**  
19540 Front Street  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1076 - Poulsbo, WA 98370-0050  
(360) 692-3611 FAX (360) 692-6684

BREMERTON-000251

If you have any questions please feel free to call. I can be reached at (360) 692-3611, ext. 254.

Sincerely,

Steven J. Brown  
Environmental Health Specialist  
Solid and Hazardous Waste Program

sjb/swwqbcd/shw/steven/misc/SeskoLetter